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Crime prevention and criminal justice

High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations convention against corruption

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 2002/9 of 24 July 2002, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations convention against corruption

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 55/61 of 4 December 2000, in which it decided to establish an ad hoc committee for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 56/260 of 31 January 2002 on the terms of reference for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption, in which it decided that the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, established pursuant to its resolution 55/61, should negotiate a broad and effective convention which, subject to the final determination of its title, should be referred to as the "United Nations Convention against Corruption", and requested the Ad Hoc Committee to complete its work by the end of 2003,

"*Recalling further* its resolutions 55/188 of 20 December 2000 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin and 56/186 of 21 December 2001 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin,

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"*Commending* the United Nations efforts to address concerns about corruption in a global forum and the efforts of Member States to implement the various instruments and standards relating to corruption, including the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions[1] and the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials,[2]

"*Mindful* of the fact that negotiations on the draft United Nations convention against corruption are continuing in Vienna in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 55/61 and 56/260,

"1. *Notes* the progress made to date by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, and urges the Ad Hoc Committee to endeavour to complete its work by the end of 2003;

"2. *Accepts with appreciation* the offer made by the Government of Mexico to host a high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the convention;

"3. *Decides* to convene in Mexico the high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the convention by the end of 2003;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to schedule the high-level political conference for a period of three days before the end of 2003 and to organize it in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/243;

"5. *Requests* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat to work with the Government of Mexico, in consultation with Member States, in formulating proposals on organizing the high-level political conference so that it will provide opportunities for high-level delegates to consider issues connected with the convention, in particular follow-up activities for its effective implementation and for future work in the area of fighting corruption;

"6. *Invites* all States to arrange to be represented at the high-level political conference by persons at the highest possible level of government;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention, which will act as secretariat for the high-level political conference, with all the resources necessary for organizing the conference in an effective and appropriate manner."

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[1] Resolution 51/191, annex.

[2] Resolution 51/59, annex.